Info-Hams Digest              Fri, 17 Dec 93      Volume 93 : Issue 1474

Today's Topics:
                    "Re: Was - 6-m Transceivers"
                  ARRL's callsign admin position
                  ARRL Letter December 14, 1993
                       chirping oscillator
             Guide to the Personal Radio Newsgroups
       Index to the rec.radio.amateur.* Supplemental Archives
                 Optimum call sign for CW/contests?
                 SWR tweeking: Details, details...
        what was the telnet address for the ham/call database??
                 Where are all the young enthusiasts?

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party.  Your mileage may vary.  So there.
----------------------------------------------------------------------

Date: 17 Dec 93 23:12:49 GMT
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu
Subject: "Re: Was - 6-m Transceivers"
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I said:
>>I have had exactly ONE (1) TVI complaint in my last 30 years on 6 meters. It
>>was from the neighbors who have the Emerson VCR. They also radiate cable
>>sigs badly (have they extended their cable connection with zip-cord?).
>>
>>73,  Bob  w3otc@amsat.org
Dave asked:
>Hey Bob I was just wondering...since there are a lot of things such as

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>baby monitors, cordless phones, ect near 6 meters do you get any complaints
>about getting into those devices?
>Dave, KD6RRS
>
>**********************************************************
>*  Dave Parker: e-mail: dparker@netcom.com               *
>*  Tracy, California USA                                 *
>**********************************************************

I modify my part of the above to say:

I have had exactly ONE (1) Consumer Product Interference complaint ... etc

I think that this is a FULL answer.
73, Bob w3otc

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Date: 17 Dec 93 13:26:14
From: idacrd.ccr-p.ida.org!idacrd!n4hy@uunet.uu.net
Subject: ARRL's callsign admin position
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Gary:

In general this may be correct, but god forbid, I am going to come to
Mendelsohn's defense.  He does NOT appoint yes men EXCLUSIVELY to his
cabinet.  Phil Karn and I were both asked to be on his cabinet and Karn
actually served in some places.  Now Phil and I had been a thorn in Steve's
side before and he had no reason to believe that we would `behave' in these
meetings.  I did not serve, primarily because I wasn't in Hudson, I am
in Atlantic.  Mendelsohn, whether you like or hate him, does NOT choose
exclusively yes men for his cabinet.

Bob

--
Robert W. McGwier                   | n4hy@ccr-p.ida.org Interests: ham radio,
Center for Communications Research  | scouts, astronomy, golf (o yea, & math!)
Princeton, N.J. 08520               | ASM Troop 5700, ACM Pack 53 Hightstown
(609)-279-6240(v) (609)-924-3061(f)| I used to be a Buffalo . . . NE III-120

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Date: 17 Dec 93 13:22:32
From: news.service.uci.edu!cerritos.edu!news.Arizona.EDU!math.arizona.edu!noao!
ncar!gatech!darwin.sura.net!@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: ARRL Letter December 14, 1993
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To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Can you please remove the formatting codes and reformat it yourself.
That was almost unreadable.

Bob

--
Robert W. McGwier                  | n4hy@ccr-p.ida.org Interests: ham radio,
Center for Communications Research | scouts, astronomy, golf (o yea, & math!)
Princeton, N.J. 08520              | ASM Troop 5700, ACM Pack 53 Hightstown
(609)-279-6240(v) (609)-924-3061(f)| I used to be a Buffalo . . . NE III-120


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Date: 17 Dec 93 19:55:02 GMT
From: ogicse!hp-cv!sdd.hp.com!col.hp.com!srgenprp!alanb@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: chirping oscillator
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Majec Systems (majec@cactus.org) wrote:

: I have a chirping, whooping, and generally being anything but, stable
: oscillator. As CW is my preferred form of rf emission this chirping
: oscillator just won't cut it.
:
: The rig is a TEN-TEC pm2 (early 70's qrp rig) It's a direct conversion
: style transceiver.  ...

: This is a fairly crude design in my opinion.The DPDT switch has single
: conductor hookup wire going from the switch to the board (six of them)
: about 2.5 inches long. The switch selects between 80m and 40m lc circuits
: which feed the base of  the bipolar transistor,  the oscillator.   ...

The long leads would likely cause mechanical instability, but not chirp
(except for a possibility mentioned below.)

What are you using for a power supply?  If the power supply voltage is
not rock-solid when you key the transmitter, that could easily cause the
chirp.  For a test, hook up the radio with short, fat leads to a car battery
or well-regulated power supply.  If the chirp goes away, then that's the
problem.

: By the way there is no shielding around the transistor section
: of the oscillator, the inductor is in a metal can but that's it.

The long leads leading to the VFO tank could be picking up RF from the
power amplifier stage, which could cause chirp.  Try shielding the entire

VFO (aluminum foil works for a temporary test) to see if that's the cause.
Check power supply bypassing -- RF can get into the VFO that way too.
One of those could easily bethe problem, since the power amplifier and
oscillator are on the same frequency in direct-conversion transceivers.

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Date: Wed, 15 Dec 1993 12:00:59 GMT
From: nevada.edu!news.unomaha.edu!news@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Guide to the Personal Radio Newsgroups
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Posted-By: auto-faq 3.1.1.4
Archive-name: radio/personal-intro
Revision: 1.5 09/18/93 16:49:31
Changes: new mailing lists, .packet rmgroup, and .policy updates

(Note:  The following is reprinted with the permission of the author.)

This message describes the rec.radio.amateur.*, rec.radio.cb, rec.radio.info,
and rec.radio.swap newsgroups. It is intended to serve as a guide for the new
reader on what to find where. Questions and comments may be directed to the
author, Jay Maynard, K5ZC, by Internet electronic mail at
jmaynard@oac.hsc.uth.tmc.edu. This message was last changed on 18 September
1993 to add the mailing lists for the new rec.radio.amateur newsgroups, to
note the rmgroup of rec.radio.amateur.packet, and to officially retire some
(in)famous threads of discussion on rec.radio.amateur.policy.

History
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Way back when, before there was a Usenet, the Internet hosted a mailing list
for hams, called (appropriately enough) INFO-HAMS. Ham radio discussions
were held on the mailing list, and sent to the mailboxes of those who had
signed up for it. When the Usenet software was created, and net news as we
now know it was developed, a newsgroup was created for hams: net.ham-radio.
The mailing list and the newsgroup were gatewayed together, eventually.

As the net grew, and as packet radio came into vogue, packet discussion began
to dominate other topics in the group and on the list. This resulted in the
logical solution: a group was created to hold the packet discussion, and
another corresponding mailing list was created as well: net.ham-radio.packet
and PACKET-RADIO, respectively.

These two groups served for several years, and went through Usenet's Great
Renaming essentially unchanged, moving from net.ham-radio[.packet] to

rec.ham-radio[.packet]. Readership and volume grew with the rest of the network.

The INFO-HAMS mailing list was originally run from a US Army computer at White Sands Missile Range, SIMTEL20. There were few problems with this arrangement, but one was that the system was not supposed to be used for commercial purposes. Since one of hams' favorite pastimes is swapping gear, it was natural for hams to post messages about equipment for sale to INFO-HAMS/rec.ham-radio. This ran afoul of SIMTEL20's no-commercial-use restriction, and after some argument, a group was created specifically for messages like that: rec.ham-radio.swap. This group wasn't gatewayed to a mailing list, thus avoiding problems.

While all this was happening, other folks wanted to discuss other aspects of the world of radio than the personal communications services. Those folks created the rec.radio.shortwave and rec.radio.noncomm newsgroups, and established the precedent of the rec.radio.* hierarchy, which in turn reflected Usenet's overall trend toward a hierarchical name structure.

The debate between proponents of a no-code ham radio license and its opponents grew fierce and voluminous in late 1989 and 1990. Eventually, both sides grew weary of the debate, and those who had not been involved even more so. A proposal for a newsgroup dedicated to licensing issues failed. A later proposal was made for a group that would cover the many recurring legal issues discussions. During discussion of the latter proposal, it became clear that it would be desirable to fit the ham radio groups under the rec.radio.* hierarchy. A full-blown reorganization was passed by Usenet voters in January 1991, leading to the overall structure we now use.

After the reorganization, more and more regular information postings began to appear, and were spread out across the various groups in rec.radio.*. Taking the successful example of the news.answers group, where informational postings from across the net are sent, the group rec.radio.info was created in December, 1992, with Mark Salyzyn, VE6MGS, initially serving as moderator.

In January, 1993, many users started complaining about the volume in rec.radio.amateur.misc. This led to a discussion about a second reorganization, which sparked the creation of a mailing list by Ian Kluft, KD6EUI. This list, which was eventually joined by many of the most prolific posters to the ham radio groups, came up with a proposal to add 11 groups to the rec.radio.amateur hierarchy in April 1993. The subsequent vote, held in May and early June, approved the creation of five groups: rec.radio.amateur.digital.misc (to replace .packet), .equipment, .homebrew, .antenna, and .space.

The Current Groups
==================

I can hear you asking, "OK, so this is all neat history, but what does it have to do with me now?" The answer is that the history of each group has a direct bearing on what the group is used for, and what's considered appropriate where.

The easy one is rec.radio.amateur.misc. It is what rec.ham-radio was renamed to during the reorganization. Any message that's not more appropriate in one of the other groups belongs here, from contesting to DX to ragchewing on VHF to information on becoming a ham.

The group rec.radio.amateur.digital.misc is for discussions related to (surprise!) digital amateur radio. This doesn't have to be the common two-meter AX.25 variety of packet radio, either; some of the most knowledgeable folks in radio digital communications can be found here, and anything in the general area is welcome. The name was changed to emphasize this, and to encourage discussion not only of other text-based digital modes, such as AMTOR, RTTY, and Clover, but things like digital voice and video as well. The former group, rec.radio.amateur.packet, should be removed by September 21st, 1993. It is obsolete, and you should use .digital.misc instead (or the appropriate new mailing list, mentioned below).  The group has .misc as part of the name to allow further specialization if the users wish it, such as .digital.tcp-ip.

The swap group is now rec.radio.swap. This recognizes a fact that became evident shortly after the original group was formed: Hams don't just swap ham radio gear, and other folks besides hams swap ham equipment. If you have radio equipment, or test gear, or computer stuff that hams would be interested in, here's the place. Equipment wanted postings belong here too. Discussions about the equipment generally don't; if you wish to discuss a particular posting with the buyer, email is a much better way to do it, and the other groups, especially .equipment and .homebrew, are the place for public discussions. There is now a regular posting with information on how to go about buying and selling items in rec.radio.swap; please refer to it before you post there.

The first reorganization added two groups to the list, one of which is rec.radio.amateur.policy. This group was created as a place for all the discussions that seem to drag on interminably about the many rules, regulations, legalities, and policies that surround amateur radio, both existing and proposed.  Recent changes to the Amateur Radio Rules (FCC Part 97) have finally laid to rest the Great Usenet Pizza Autopatch Debate as well as complaints about now-preempted local scanner laws hostile to amateurs, but plenty of discussion about what a bunch of rotten no-goodniks the local frequency coordinating body is, as well as the neverending no-code debate, may still be found here.

The other added group is rec.radio.cb. This is the place for all discussion about the Citizens' Band radio service. Such discussions have been very inflammatory in rec.ham-radio in the past; please do not cross-post to both

rec.radio.cb and rec.radio.amateur.* unless the topic is genuinely of interest to both hams and CBers - and very few topics are.

The rec.radio.info group is just what its name implies: it's the place where informational messages from across rec.radio.* may be found, regardless of where else they're posted. As of this writing, information posted to the group includes Cary Oler's daily solar progagation bulletins, ARRL bulletins, the Frequently Asked Questions files for the various groups, and radio modification instructions. This group is moderated, so you cannot post to it directly; if you try, even if your message is crossposted to one of the other groups, your message will be mailed to the moderator, who is currently Mark Salyzyn, VE6MGS. The email address for submissions to the group is rec-radio-info@ve6mgs.ampr.ab.ca. Inquires and other administrivia should be directed to rec-radio-request@ve6mgs.ampr.ab.ca. For more information about rec.radio.info, consult the introduction and posting guidelines that are regularly posted to that newsgroup.

The groups rec.radio.amateur.antenna, .equipment, .homebrew, and .space are for more specialized areas of ham radio: discussions about antennas, commercially-made equipment, homebrewing, and amateur radio space operations. The .equipment group is not the place for buying or selling equipment; that's what rec.radio.swap is for. Similarly, the .space group is specifically about amateur radio in space, such as the OSCAR program and SAREX, the Shuttle Amateur Radio EXperiment; other groups cover other aspects of satellites and space. Homebrewing isn't about making your own alcoholic beverages at home (that's rec.crafts.brewing), but rather construction of radio and electronic equipment by the amateur experimenter.

Except for rec.radio.swap and rec.radio.cb, all of these newsgroups are available by Internet electronic mail in digest format; send a mail message containing "help" on a line by itself to listserv@ucsd.edu for instructions on how to use the mail server.

All of the groups can be posted to by electronic mail, though, by using a gateway at the University of Texas at Austin. To post a message this way, change the name of the group you wish to post to by replacing all of the '.'s with '-'s - for example, rec.radio.swap becomes rec-radio-swap - and send to that name@cs.utexas.edu (rec-radio-swap@cs.utexas.edu, for example). You may crosspost by including multiple addresses as Cc: entries (but see below). This gateway's continued availability is at the pleasure of the admins at UT-Austin, and is subject to going away at any time - and especially if forgeries and other net.abuses become a problem. You have been warned.

A Few Words on Crossposting
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Please do not crosspost messages to two or more groups unless there is genuine interest in both groups in the topic being discussed, and when you do, please

include a header line of the form "Followup-To: group.name" in your article's
headers (before the first blank line). This will cause followups to your
article to go to the group listed in the Followup-To: line. If you wish
to have replies to go to you by email, rather than be posted, use the word
"poster" instead of the name of a group. Such a line appears in the headers
of this article.

One of the few examples of productive cross-posting is with the rec.radio.info
newsgroup. To provide a filtered presentation of information articles, while
still maintaining visibility in their home newsgroups, the moderator strongly
encourages cross-posting. All information articles should be submitted to the
rec.radio.info moderator so that he may simultaneously cross-post your
information to the appropriate newsgroups. Most newsreaders will only present
the article once, and network bandwidth is conserved since only one article is
propagated. If you make regular informational postings, and have made
arrangements with the moderator to post directly to the group, please
cross-post as appropriate.

--
Jay Maynard, EMT-P, K5ZC, PP-ASEL | Never ascribe to malice that which can
jmaynard@oac.hsc.uth.tmc.edu      | adequately be explained by stupidity.
      "If my car ran OS/2, it'd be there by now" -- bumper sticker
                GCS d++ p+ c++ l+ m+/- s/++ g++ w++ t+ r

--
73, Paul W. Schleck, KD3FU

pschleck@unomaha.edu

Celebrating 60 years of the Univ. of Maryland ARA - W3EAX (1933-1993)

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Date: Wed, 15 Dec 1993 12:00:16 GMT
From: nevada.edu!news.unomaha.edu!news@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Index to the rec.radio.amateur.* Supplemental Archives
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Posted-By: auto-faq 3.1.1.4
Archive-name: radio/ham-radio/archives

The following is a list of informational files for this newsgroup
available via anonymous FTP from ftp.cs.buffalo.edu (currently at IP
number 128.205.32.9) or the Australian mirror at grivel.une.edu.au
(currently at IP number 129.180.4.7).

Questions to bowen@cs.buffalo.edu

```
1750m.band  - misc info on the 1750m band
222xvtr.zip  - PostScript code for KH6CP no-tune 222-MHz transverter
8085sys.zip  - 8085 system software, from QEX 11/93 and 12/93
alinco_180t_mod  - Alinco 180T modification for a TNC connection
ampr_coordinators - coordinators for packet IP addresses
antenna_refs  - references for articles about antenna designs
arrl-logo.ps  - ARRL logo in PostScript format
arrl_bib  - bibliographies from ARRL literature (ASCII format)
arrl_digital_minutes - Minutes of the ARRL committee on digital comm.
arrl_fo_jobs  - descriptions of some ARRL Field Organization jobs
arrl_info_service - announcement of the ARRLs trial information service
bbs_interface_specs - specifications for message passing protocol
cal_pd_freq  - California police frequencies
callbook.tar.Z  - sources for the marvin callsign server v1.3
canadian.Z  - Canadian ham database in FCC format
carpet.loop.2  - Antenna for apartments and small spaces
clubcalls.Z  - database of US ham clubs
comb6.zip  - HF Propagation Predication program
docket_91-36  - information regarding the proposed scanner regs
dxcc-k2di  - ARRL DXCC country list
dx_w2iol.dat  - data for all country prefix, position, etc
dx_w2iol.doc  - documentation for the above database
element_credit  - rules about VE credit for earliers exams
elmers_admin  - information about the elmers list (see below)
elmers_list  - list of elmers on the network
exam_ops  - info on exams and exam opportunities
faq_callsign  - frequently asked questions about the callsign server
faq_ham_1  - frequently asked questions about ham radio (pts 1)
faq_ham_2  - frequently asked questions about ham radio (pts 2)
faq_ham_3  - frequently asked questions about ham radio (pts 3)
faq_packet  - frequently asked questions about packet radio
faq_shortwave  - frequently asked questions about shortwave
fft.com  - EGA/VGA DOS command for spectral display (QST 1/92)
ffth.com  - Hercules DOS command for spectral display (QST 1/92)
field_day_92  - field day rules for 1992
florida_antenna  - Florida State antenna law info
guide2newsgroups - description of USENET newsgroups dedicated to radio
ham_sat_sum  - summary of information needed to get on satellite
hams_on_usenet  - list of ham operators and e-mail addresses on the net
hamstacks  - information about the question pool stacks
handicap_waiver  - info on obtaining a handicapped test waiver
hf_rigs  - QST reviews of available HF rigs
ht_info  - general information about commercial hand helds
icom_ic_w21at_mods - increases the number of bands on an Icom IC W21AT
intro_to_swl  - info for aspiring short wave listeners
intro_to_scanners - info for aspiring scanner listeners
jlem.zip  - Program, w/source, for 2kx8 ROM emulator (QEX 1/93)
j-poles  - description of j-pole antenna made from twin-lead
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lead_acid_batteries - essay on lead-acid batteries
license_plates  - guide to ham calls on license plates
logos   - PostScript logos for various ham organizations
mail_order  - a database of electronic mail order shops
manufacturers   - names and addresses of ham gear manufacturers
mav11.ps  - postscript image of MAV-11 amplifier PCB (QEX 9/93)
mods   - directory containing radio modifications
motorola_ge_service_man - how to get service manuals for Motorola and GE rigs
nasa_select  - places where you can hear NASA SELECT broadcasts
new_packeteers  - helpful essays for new packeteers
newcomers  - tips and hints for those new to amateur radio
nprm_93_85_text  - text of docket 93-85 (message forwarding systems)
packet_clubs  - organizations you can get more packet info from
packet_gateways  - list of gateways from packet to Internet
packet_header_standard - description of BBS message header standards
packet_misc  - miscellaneous packet info
packet_software  - list of packet software versions
phone_bbs_list  - phone BBSs for ham related issues/software
pio_handbook  - ARRL Public Information Officer's Handbook
pr_docket_92-136 - text of FCC PR Docket 92-136
qex1193.ps  - Postscript image of 13cm preamp board, 11/93 QEX "RF"
qsl_bureau1  - information about the ARRL QSL bureau
qsl_bureau2  - "what should I do if" list for the QSL bureau
qst_prodrev  - index of ARRL product reviews in QST
quest_pool_novice - novice question pool - good after 7/1/93
quest_pool_technician - technician question pool - good after 7/1/93
quest_pool_general - general question pool - good before 6/30/94
quest_pool_advanced - advanced question pool - good before 6/30/95
quest_pool_extra - extra question pool - good before 6/30/96
repeater_map_proj - description of Electronic Repeater Mapping Project
rfi_tips  - good posting about RFI
sol_geo_data  - desciption of daily solar geophysical broadcasts
sol_terra_terms  - glossary of solar-terrestrial terms
sstv_wefax_info  - general help for SSTV and WEFAX users
tasm.zip  - table-driven assembler for weavrdsp.zip file
usenet_purchases - tips on buying and selling via USENET
weavrdsp.zip  - src to "Weaver Method Modulator Using DSP" (QEX 9/93)
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For readers of this newsgroup both new and experienced, these files are
a de-facto "Required Reading List" to provide definitive answers and
pointers to other sources for questions that come up in this forum.

This is also your archive, so any additional articles, guides, or small
PostScript graphics that you feel would enhance this collection are most
welcome.  Submit to Devon via his E-mail address above.

Thanks go to Devon Bowen, KA2NRC, for providing diskspace and maintaining
these valuable archives, as well as all the authors who wrote and submitted

the information contained in them.

Additional archives out there that have /pub/ham-radio directories are
encouraged to "mirror" these files to provide redundant storage for these
documents.  Some of these sites (which may or may not mirror
ftp.cs.buffalo.edu) include:

```
ucsd.edu                      128.54.16.1      /hamradio
nic.funet.fi                  128.214.6.100    /pub/ham
                                               /pub/dx
csseq.cs.tamu.edu             128.194.2.20     /ham-radio
suntan.tandem.com             130.252.10.8     /hamradio
col.hp.com                    15.255.240.16    /packet
talos.cs.buffalo.edu          128.205.32.9     /pub/ham-radio
bubba.business.uwo.ca         129.100.22.42    /hamster/ham
                                               /hamster/tcpip
                                               /hamster/mods
                                               /hamster/view
vax.cs.pitt.edu               130.49.2.1       /pub/arrl8
                                               /pub/ka9q
                                               /pub/ncpa
                                               /pub/tnc2
brolga.cc.uq.oz.au            130.102.128.5    /pub/ka9q
tomcat.gsfc.nasa.gov          128.183.10.100   /public
helios.tn.cornell.edu         128.84.241.2     /pub
wuarchive.wustl.edu           128.252.135.4    /mirrors/msdos/hamradio
                                               /mirrors/msdos/packet
                                               /mirrors/msdos/ka9q-tcpip
                                               /mirrors/cpm/hamradio
                                               /mirrors/cpm/packet
                                               /mirrors/misc/hamradio
                                               /mirrors/misc/packet
                                               /mirrors/misc/ka9q-tcpip
gatekeeper.dec.com            16.1.0.2         /pub/net/ka9q
sun.soe.clarkson.edu          128.153.12.3     /pub/ka9q
sics.se                       192.16.123.90    /archive/packet
                                               /pub/packet-incoming
sabrina.dei.unipd.it          147.162.2.106    /pub/hamradio
uhunix2.uhcc.Hawaii.Edu       128.171.44.7     /incoming/ham-radio
caticsuf.cati.csufresno.edu   129.8.100.15     /pub/ham-radio
ftp.waseda.ac.jp              133.9.1.32       /pub/toumon/ham-radio
garfield.catt.ncsu.edu        152.1.43.23      /pub/hamradio
plan9.njit.edu                128.235.1.10     /pub/hamradio
sunee.uwaterloo.ca            129.97.128.196   /pub/radio
grivel.une.edu.au             129.180.4.7      /pub/ham-radio
uxc.cso.uiuc.edu              128.174.5.50     /pub/ham-radio
iraun1.ira.uka.de             129.13.10.90     /pub/ham-radio
nic.switch.ch                 130.59.1.40      /software/hamradio
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                                            /software/mac/ham-radio
iesd.auc.dk                      130.225.48.4    /ham-radio
akutaktak.andrew.cmu.edu         128.2.35.1      /aw0g (softkiss-mac)
??????????                       129.69.162.1    /pub (login as ftp
                                                    pkt cluster,usa callbook)
gandalf.umcs.maine.edu           130.111.112.21  /pub/ham-radio # ls -l NO !)
rtfm.mit.edu                     18.70.0.209     /pub/usenet/news.answers/radio
tamu.edu                         128.194.15.32   /pc-sig
ftp.geo.brown.edu                128.148.116.19  /pub/hamradio
ns.risc.net                      155.212.2.2     /ham-radio
world.std.com                    192.74.137.5    /pub/hamradio
```

Questions about FTP mirroring and access to appropriate software should
be directed to me, or do an Archie search on the keyword "mirror."

For those without FTP access (and only those without FTP access,
please), there is an FTP mail server at ftpmail@decwrl.dec.com (IP
16.1.0.1).  Send the word "HELP" to this address for more information.

Additional documents on Usenet and other newsgroups may be obtained
from rtfm.mit.edu (IP 18.70.0.209) via anonymous FTP or via
mail server (send the word "HELP" to mail-server@rtfm.mit.edu).

The American Radio Relay League has recently made available a
mail-server to distribute many of their informational documents in
electronic form.  Send E-mail to info@arrl.org with "HELP" in the
message body for more information.

Yet another mail-server has been made available by Steve Harding,
KA6ETB.  Send E-mail to ham-server@grafex.Cupertino.CA.US with "HELP" in
the message body for more information.

73, Paul W. Schleck, KD3FU

pschleck@unomaha.edu

Celebrating 60 years of the Univ. of Maryland ARA - W3EAX (1933-1993)

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Date: Fri, 17 Dec 1993 19:37:36 GMT
From: mvb.saic.com!unogate!news.service.uci.edu!usc!sdd.hp.com!col.hp.com!
srgenprp!alanb@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Optimum call sign for CW/contests?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Jay Maynard (jmaynard@nyx10.cs.du.edu) wrote:
: In article <CI3KDB.CK2@srgenprp.sr.hp.com>, Alan Bloom <alanb@sr.hp.com> wrote:

: >For CW, pick the shortest possible call ...

: I'd beg to differ a bit on this one; I ran FD this year as N5TM, and I found
: myself getting beaten out by folks with longer calls who were the last ones
: replying to a CQ.

So just send the short call twice.  (It works with N1AL!)

AL N1AL

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Date: 17 Dec 93 19:44:37 GMT
From: ogicse!hp-cv!sdd.hp.com!col.hp.com!srgenprp!alanb@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: SWR tweeking: Details, details...
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Gary Coffman (gary@ke4zv.atl.ga.us) wrote:
: In article <2eq8cuINNpgl@dns1.NMSU.Edu> gereiswi@nmsu.edu (George S. Reiswig)
writes:
: >
: >When measuring
: >the SWR with (guess what) an SWR meter, is it really crucial to place the
: >meter between the feed line and the antenna, or can you put it between the
: >transmitter and the feed line?  Would the latter yield spurious readings?

: Well that depends on why you're doing the SWR measurement, and how well
: you know the characteristics of your line. If you know your particular
: line characteristics, you can make the measurement *anywhere* that's
: convienent and use the Smith Chart, or the formulas in the Antenna Book
: to determine what complex impedance appears at any point in the system.

An SWR meter does not measure complex impedance, no matter where it is
placed.  It measures the magnitude (but not the phase) of the reflection
coeffficient and displays that on a meter calibrated in units of SWR.

Assuming a lossless feedline, the SWR is the same at all points along
the line.

AL N1AL

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Date: 17 Dec 93 17:53:41 GMT
From: ogicse!uwm.edu!cs.utexas.edu!swrinde!ringer!lonestar.utsa.edu!
blake@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: what was the telnet address for the ham/call database??
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

like the subject asks. also the port numbers.
73s

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Date: 17 Dec 93 23:15:59 GMT
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu
Subject: Where are all the young enthusiasts?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I've just finished reading a slew of messages on this subject, but there's a
perspective that they all seem to have missed. I read disappointment that we
can't get young folks interested in building radios, and lack of surprise at
this given today's market.

It seems to me that the excitement in building radios in earlier days came, at
least in part, from the fact that you could be on, or at least close to, the
leading edge of the technology in your own shack. That clearly isn't the case
any more with building regular radios - how many people could come anywhere
close to designing and building their own competition-class HF radio at home?

But that doesn't mean that all is lost. Not by a long shot. Almost anyone with
any interest in science gets excited by shuttle missions and other parts of the
space program. This seems an obvious way to get people interested in ham radio.
The opportunity to talk to astronauts directly, to communicate with any number
of spacecraft, to receive your own weather satellite or other earth images, to
use a BBS that's up in space rather than across a boring old phone line - these
are the kinds of things that young folks - and old - could get jazzed about.

And then there are the other, stranger, sides. Take someone who's seen regular
circuit boards - inside a PC, for example - and then show them the inside of a
10GHz radio. They've probably never seen anything like it. Take someone who has
even the simplest understanding of how "normal" radio transmission works and
tell them about spread spectrum. These are the things magic is made from.

Amateur radio isn't about building the same equipment you can buy in the store,
it's about being on the leading edge of the technology. It's about exploring new
ways of doing things, pushing the frontiers. You won't get people excited in a
hobby like ours by showing them how to do the same things that their father and
his father before him used to do. Show them what's out at the leading edge, show
them where the excitement and exploration is, and then show them how they can

play the game.

        Martin.


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| Martin F N Cooper | Internet: cooper@adoc.xerox.com |
| Xerox Corporation | Phone:     +1 415-813-6848      |
| Palo Alto, CA     | Ham:       KD6YAM               |
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Michael P. Deignan <md@maxcy2.maxcy.brown.edu> wrote:
>In article <$arlb116.1993@ampr.org>, marcbg@netcom.com (MB Grant) writes:
>
>|> The FCC today proposed that amateurs be able to choose their own
>|> call signs, once a new automated processing system is in place at
>|> the Commission's Private Radio Bureau.
>
>I would think that the FCC should be more concerned with reducing the
>lag time it takes to process amateur radio licenses in general (something
>that would benefit all amateurs) rather than something silly like
>"vanity callsigns" (something that will only benefit the few vain
>enough to want a call with their initials).
>
I think the ability to pick your own callsign will come as a byproduct of
the restructuring which, incidentally, will reduce the lag time.  They're
just agreeing to build it in, I think.  Ability to check for valid, available
callsigns was part of the proposal, so one can only assume that this is
going to be a fairly advanced (and finally useful!) system.  No more
punch cards for OUR FCC, my friends...

High tech?  I've got high tech for you...

I have been told that NASA-Goddard, a center of "high technology," still

1)  Uses punch cards to run payroll checks
2)  Was sorting them BY HAND recently because the sorting machine broke

Just some food for thought...

Scott


--
73,            _____   _____   The
        \ / Long   Original
Scott Rosenfeld  Amateur Radio NF3I  Burtonsville, MD  |   Live    $5.00
  WAC-CW/SSB  WAS  DXCC - 119 QSLed on dipoles _____| Dipoles! Antenna!

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End of Info-Hams Digest V93 #1474
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